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2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH)
☎ +31 70 340 2040
TX 31651 epo nl
FAX +31 70 340 3016

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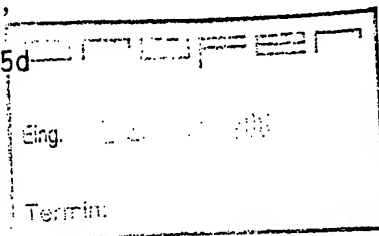
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Prüfer, Lutz H., Dipl.-Phys.
PRÜFER & PARTNER GbR,
Patentanwälte,
Harthauser Strasse 25d
81545 München
ALLEMAGNE



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COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract

☒ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

2A, 2B, 2C

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	✓ WO 98 47188 A (SIEMENS AG) 22 October 1998 (1998-10-22) * page 2, line 4 - line 12; figure 1 *	1,3	H01L41/083
A	✓ DE 197 15 488 C (SIEMENS AG) 25 June 1998 (1998-06-25) * column 1, line 3 - column 4, line 33 * * column 6, line 15 - line 55 * * figures 1,8 *	1-5	
A	✓ DE 198 57 247 C (ROBERT BOSCH GMBH) 27 January 2000 (2000-01-27) * column 2, line 12 - column 4, line 6; figures 1,2 *	1-3,7	
A	✓ EP 0 094 078 A (NEC CORP) 16 November 1983 (1983-11-16) * page 8, line 4 - page 9, line 6; figures 1,2 * * page 24, line 7 - line 26; figure 22 *	1,3-6	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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